

2012 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Approved

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Budget Action Title: Monitoring and assessing HSD refugee and immigrant job readiness training, family support, community organizing and leadership development programs in 2012.

Councilmembers: Godden; Licata; O'Brien

Staff Analyst: Michael Fong

Budget Committee Vote:

Date	Result	SB	BH	SC	TR	JG	NL	RC	TB	MO
11/10/2011	Pass 8- 1-Absent	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) requests the Human Services Department (HSD) to monitor and assess the impacts (if any) associated with repurposing existing funding for Immigrant and Refugee Family Support to the newly proposed Immigrant and Refugee Youth Job Readiness Training program. Recognizing that nearly 400 parents currently receive family support assistance on an annual basis, Council is interested in ensuring that to the extent possible, any loss of service delivery is mitigated through other HSD programs and potentially, if approved by voters, the Families and Education Levy (F&E Levy). In addition, HSD plans to release a Policy Advocacy and Technical Assistance Request for Investment (RFI) in 2012 that includes funding for leadership development and coalition building for people of color and refugee and immigrant communities.

HSD is requested to provide the Council with a report that includes the following:

- a) Updated inventory of HSD funded immigrant and refugee family support programming that includes any City or external funding changes for these programs. This information should include a comparison of 2011 and 2012 program funding sources (City and other). This is intended to identify whether City leverage of external funding for these programs has changed and what impacts that might have on service delivery.
- b) Updated information related to any F&E Levy programs that provide family support services for immigrants and refugees. This information will not be available prior to adoption of the 2012 Budget. Council will want a summary of funding and outcomes associated with the F&E Levy programs that meet the objective of providing family support services to immigrants and refugees.
- c) An assessment based on feedback from agencies and service providers, community stakeholders, the City's Immigrant and Refugee Commission, and any other relevant sources

regarding community family support needs. This is intended to identify whether any service gaps are emerging either as a result of repurposing of City funds or occurring in the community in general due to other factors.

- d) An update of the results from the Job Readiness Training RFI with a summary of contracted performance outcomes and a progress report related to implementation. In addition to providing an update on the Job Readiness Training RFI, HSD is requested to work with the Office for Education (OFE) to integrate the job readiness program with the Families and Education Levy programming focused on immigrant and refugee youth and families in order to develop specific measurable outcomes and align and coordinate efforts to most effectively and strategically deploy limited resources. The department is expected to report on the outcome of this coordination with OFE as part of its update to Council.
- e) An update of the result of the Policy Advocacy and Technical Assistance RFI with a summary of contracted performance outcomes and progress report related to the \$120,000 proposed to support people of color and refugee and immigrant communities in leadership development, coalition building and other activities.

HSD is requested to coordinate information related to this SLI and consult with the appropriate City department providing staff support to the City's Immigrant and Refugee Commission prior to developing a final report for Council review. HSD is requested to provide the Council Human Services Committee with a report on the elements of this SLI no later than August 1, 2012.

Additional Background Information: In 2012, HSD intends to allocate \$465,000 to service providers and agencies through a competitive RFI process for a new immigrant and refugee youth job readiness training program. The plan calls for repurposing \$315,000 of existing funds allocated to agencies to provide family support services to immigrant and refugees with children in school. Given the new goal of implementing an intensive and integrated approach to family support as it relates to job readiness training, this program will more narrowly focus on families with youth in the age range of 15-20.

In addition, \$120,000 has been allocated in the 2012 budget to support community organizing and leadership development efforts within communities of color and immigrant and refugee communities. This funding is intended to increase the level of civic engagement and involvement in public policy making by individuals from these communities.

As a result of new funding and policy shifts, Council is interested in monitoring general immigrant and refugee programming in the context of these changes.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Housing, Human Services, Health, & Culture

Date Due to Council: August 1, 2012